

RAMADAN

WHAT IS RAMADAN:

Ramadan is one of the twelve Arabic months. It is a month which is venerated in the Islamic religion, and it is distinguished from the other months by a number of characteristics and virtues, including the following:

Allah has made fasting this month the fourth pillar of Islam.

Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) says:

“THE MONTH OF RAMADAN IN WHICH WAS REVEALED THE QUR’AN, GUIDANCE FOR MANKIND AND CLEAR PROOFS FOR THE GUIDANCE AND THE CRITERION (BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG). SO, WHOEVER OF YOU SIGHTS (THE CRESCENT ON THE FIRST NIGHT OF) THE MONTH (OF RAMADAN I.E. IS PRESENT AT HIS HOME), HE MUST OBSERVE SAWM (FASTS) THAT MONTH...”

(Surah Al Baqarah 2:185)

Narrated by Ibn Umar (رضي الله عنه) that,

The Prophet Muhammad (صلی الله علیہ وسلم) said:

“ISLAM IS BUILT ON FIVE (PILLARS): THE TESTIMONY THAT THERE IS NO GOD EXCEPT ALLAAH AND THAT MUHAMMAD IS THE MESSENGER OF ALLAAH; ESTABLISHING PRAYER; PAYING ZAKAAH; FASTING RAMADAAN; AND HAJJ TO THE HOUSE (THE KA’BAH).”

(Bukharee 8 & Muslim 16)

THE MONTH OF QURAN:

Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) says:

“THE MONTH OF RAMADAN IN WHICH WAS REVEALED THE QUR’AN, A GUIDANCE FOR MANKIND AND CLEAR PROOFS FOR THE GUIDANCE AND THE CRITERION (BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG)...”

(Surah Al Baqarah 2:185)

Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) says:

“VERILY! WE HAVE SENT IT (THIS QUR’ÂN) DOWN IN THE NIGHT OF AL-QADR (DECREE).

(Surah Al-Qadr 97:1)

LAYL ATAL QADR:

Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) says:

“VERILY! WE HAVE SENT IT (THIS QUR’ÂN) DOWN IN THE NIGHT OF AL-QADR (DECREE) AND WHAT WILL MAKE YOU KNOW WHAT THE NIGHT OF AL-QADR (DECREE) IS? THE NIGHT OF AL-QADR (DECREE) IS BETTER THAN A THOUSAND MONTHS (I.E. WORSHIPPING ALLÂH IN THAT NIGHT IS BETTER THAN WORSHIPPING HIM A THOUSAND MONTHS, I.E. 83 YEARS AND 4 MONTHS). THEREIN DESCEND THE ANGELS AND THE RÛH [JIBRAEL (GABRIEL)] BY ALLÂH’S PERMISSION WITH ALL DECREES, PEACE! (ALL THAT NIGHT, THERE IS PEACE AND GOODNESS FROM ALLÂH TO HIS BELIEVING SLAVES) UNTIL THE APPEARANCE OF DAWN.”

(Surah Al Qadr 97:1-50)

Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) says:

“WE SENT IT (THIS QUR’ÂN) DOWN ON A BLESSED NIGHT [(I.E. NIGHT OF QADR, SÛRAH NO: 97) IN THE MONTH OF RAMADÂN, THE 9TH MONTH OF THE ISLÂMIC CALENDAR]. VERILY, WE ARE EVER WARNING [MANKIND THAT OUR TORMENT WILL REACH THOSE WHO DISBELIEVE IN OUR ONENESS OF LORDSHIP AND IN OUR ONENESS OF WORSHIP].”

(Surah Ad Dukhan 44:3)

Allah has blessed Ramadan with Laylat Al-Qadr. Explaining the great status of this blessed night, Surah Al-Qadr was revealed, and there are many hadeeth which also speak of that.

Narrated by Abu Hurayrah (رضي الله عنه) that,

The Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said:

“THERE HAS COME TO YOU RAMADAN, A BLESSED MONTH WHICH ALLAH HAS ENJOINED YOU TO FAST, DURING WHICH THE GATES OF HEAVEN ARE OPENED AND THE GATES OF HELL ARE CLOSED, AND THE REBELLIOUS DEVILS ARE CHAINED UP. IN IT THERE IS A NIGHT WHICH IS BETTER THAN A THOUSAND MONTHS, AND WHOEVER IS DEPRIVED OF ITS GOODNESS IS INDEED DEPRIVED.”

(An Nasa'i 2106, Ahmad 8769)

FORGIVENESS OF SINS:

Narrated by Abu Hurayrah (رضي الله عنه) that,

The Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said:

“WHOEVER SPENDS LAYLAT AL-QADR IN PRAYER OUT OF FAITH AND IN THE HOPE OF REWARD, WILL BE FORGIVEN HIS PREVIOUS SINS.”

(Bukharee 1910 & Muslim 760)

Narrated by Abu Hurayrah (رضي الله عنه) that,

The Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said:

“WHOEVER FASTS RAMADAN OUT OF FAITH AND IN THE HOPE OF REWARD, HIS PREVIOUS SINS WILL BE FORGIVEN.”

(Bukharee 2014 & Muslim 760)

Narrated by Abu Hurayrah (رضي الله عنه) that,

The Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said:

“WHOEVER SPENDS THE NIGHTS OF RAMADAN IN PRAYER OUT OF FAITH AND IN THE HOPE OF REWARD, HIS PREVIOUS SINS WILL BE FORGIVEN.”
(Bukharee 2008 & Muslim 174)

GATES OF PARADISE & HELL:

Narrated by Abu Hurayrah (رضي الله عنه) that,

The Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said:

“WHEN RAMADAN COMES, THE GATES OF PARADISE ARE OPENED AND THE GATES OF HELL ARE CLOSED, AND THE DEVILS ARE CHAINED UP.”
(Bukharee 1898 & Muslim 1079)

REDEEMS FROM THE FIRE:

Narrated by Abu Umāmah Al Bahili (رضي الله عنه) that,

The Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said:

“AT EVERY BREAKING OF THE FAST, ALLAH HAS PEOPLE WHOM HE REDEEMS.”
(Musnad Imam Ahmad, Vol 5, Page 256)

EXPIATION OF SINS:

The Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said:

“THE FIVE DAILY PRAYERS, FROM ONE JUMU'AH TO THE NEXT AND FROM ONE RAMADAN TO THE NEXT ARE EXPIATION FOR (SINS COMMITTED) IN BETWEEN, SO LONG AS YOU AVOID MAJOR SINS.”
(Saheeh Muslim 233)

A YEAR OF FASTING:

The Prophet Muhammad (صلی اللہ علیہ و سلم) said:

“WHOEVER FASTS RAMADAN, A MONTH IS LIKE TEN MONTHS, AND FASTING SIX DAYS AFTER AL-FITR WILL COMPLETE THE YEAR.”
(Imam Ahmad 21906)

NIGHT IN PRAYER:

Narrated by Abu Dharr Al-Ghfari (رضی اللہ عنہ) that,

The Prophet Muhammad (صلی اللہ علیہ و سلم) said:

“WHOEVER PRAYS QIYAAM WITH THE IMAM UNTIL HE FINISHES, IT WILL BE RECORDED FOR HIM THAT HE SPENT THE WHOLE NIGHT IN PRAYER.”
(Abu Dawud 1370)

ITIKAAF:

Narrated by Ayesha (رضی اللہ عنہ) that,

THE PROPHET (SALLA-ALLAHU' ALAYHI WA SALLAM) USED TO SPEND THE LAST TEN DAYS OF RAMADAN IN ITIKAAF UNTIL HE PASSED AWAY, THEN HIS WIVES OBSERVED ITIKAAF AFTER HIM.”
(Bukharee 1922 & Muslim 1172)

STUDY THE QURAN:

“JIBREEL USED TO MEET THE PROPHET (صلی اللہ علیہ و سلم) EVERY NIGHT IN RAMADAN AND STUDY THE QUR’AN WITH HIM.”
(Bukharee 6 & Muslim 2308)

OFFER IFTAR:

Narrated by Zayd Ibn Khalid Al-Juhani (رضي الله عنه) that,

The Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said:

“WHOEVER GIVES IFTAAR TO ONE WHO IS FASTING WILL HAVE A REWARD LIKE HIS, WITHOUT THAT DETRACTING FROM THE FASTING PERSON’S REWARD IN THE SLIGHTEST.”

(Tirmidhi 807 & Ibn Majah 1746)

UMRAH IN RAMADAN:

Narrated by Abd Allah Ibn Abbas (رضي الله عنه) that,

The Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said to a woman among the Ansaar,

“WHAT KEPT YOU FROM DOING HAJJ WITH US?”

She said, “We only had two camels that we used for bringing water.” So her husband and son had gone for Hajj on one camel, and he left the other for them to use for bringing water.”

The Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said,

“WHEN RAMADAN COMES, GO FOR ‘UMRAH, FOR ‘UMRAH IN RAMADAN IS EQUIVALENT TO HAJJ.”

(Bukharee 1782 & Muslim 1256)

According to a report,

“... IS EQUIVALENT TO DOING HAJJ WITH ME.”

(Saheeh Muslim)